



News Release

Welding facilities back on the UMC campus

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Wednesday, March 2, 2005

Paul Aakre and Kent Freberg, professors in Agricultural Systems Management (ASM) are proud of the new welding facilities at the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) campus. Maintenance welding and metal fabrication plays an important role in many of the career paths chosen by students in the Agriculture and Natural Resource majors. Careers in ag education, agronomy, farming, landscaping, golf and turf management, livestock production, and power and machinery are all influenced by the welding skills of employees. Since the fall of 2000, UMC students have been taught welding at the Crookston High School. The new facilities will allow UMC students better access to training at a time that will be a better fit for their schedules. The facility is geared to provide training for "maintenance welding". Students will obtain experience in stick welding (SMAW), tig welding (GTAW) and wire welding (GMAW) applications. Plasma cutting, oxyacetylene welding cutting and brazing will also be included.

Currently, an introduction to welding has been taught within a course called ASM 1034 Ag Facilities Maintenance. With the lab on campus, an advanced course will be added that will be especially beneficial to ASM and Ag Education students. Four new Miller and Lincoln welders were purchased adding to the five existing machines. The lab will have the potential for three wire welders, four combination stick and tig machines, and two additional stick machines plus a plasma cutter. Oxyacetylene welding and cutting tables will be added.

Paul Aakre and Kent Freberg designed the facilities while most of the work was accomplished by senior ASM student Adam Koplin from Campbell, Minnesota. Upon graduation from UMC, Adam plans to pursue an advanced degree in Mechanical Engineering at North Dakota State University. UMC is also grateful to Larry Altringer owner of Crookston Welding for his contribution to building the facilities. Professor Ron Del Vecchio, Agriculture Department Head was also instrumental in pushing for the improvements and expansion. "Having these facilities on campus will enhance our ability to attract students to our campus," says Aakre. Total cost of the facilities including four new welders will cost the University less than \$8000.

News Categories

Department - Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tweet Like 0 Share

News Home

News Archives



Small Campus. Big Degree..

- Employment
- Events Calendar
- Academic Calendar
- Library
- Directories
- Maps, Directions & Parking
- Quick Facts
- Bookstore

- Faculty & Staff
- Email & Calendar
- Contact Webmaster
- System Website
- Home

2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | umcinfo@umn.edu
© 2021 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved.
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
[Privacy Statement](#)